APPENDIX I.

(Vide item IV on page 12.)

Speech of Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam, Chief Minister, presenting the Supplementary Estimates for 1963–64 to the Madras Legislature.

Sir.

I rise to present the Second Supplementary Estimates for 1963–64. A detailed statement of expenditure explaining the demands under different grants is placed on the table of the House. The total supplementary demand is for a sum of Rs. 26·89 crores of which however, only Rs. 4·74 crores will be on Revenue Account and Rs. 1·82 crores on Capital Account. The balance of Rs. 20·33 crores is on Loan Account and includes a sum of Rs. 9.8 crores towards repayment of Ways and Means advances taken from time to time from the Reserve Bank of India in the current year. In the Supplementary Estimates now presented to the Legislature, provision has been made for "New Service" schemes sanctioned by Government in the course of the year. We have also taken the opportunity to ask for additional appropriation under certain grants where under current indications the expenditure is likely to exceed the Budget provision. The expenditure on schemes included in the State Plan has gathered considerable momentum and the outlay in the current year is now expected to be of the order of Rs. 68 crores as against Rs. 60 crores only as originally visualised. In particular, the implementation of poyer programmes, those relating to generation as well as transmission and distribution, has been considerably accelerated and the Supplementary Estimates provide for the grant of an additional loan of Rs. 8 crores to the State Electricity Board.

2. The Parambikulam-Aliyar Project has also got over its teething troubles and in keeping with the current pace of execution of the scheme, an additional provision of Rs. 86 lakhs has been made in the Supplementary Estimates. We have also sanctioned the Chittar-Pattanamkal Scheme estimated to cost eventually about Rs. 7 crores, with a view to providing irrigation in the dry tracts of Tirunelveli and Kanyakumari districts, and suitable provision has been made in Supplementary Estimates towards the expenditure anticipated in the current year in the initial stages of the project. Adequate provision has also been made for Gomukhi Nadhi Project and Manjalar Reservoir Scheme in the Supplementary Estimates. Taking advantage of the additional assistance offered by the Central Government, we have also enlarged our Minor Irrigation programmes for the year. Honourable Members of the House will be interested in the details of the New Schemes furnished under Demand No. XLI.

3. The House is aware that the Government have taken up a programme of large scale acquisition of lands through the Housing Board in the neighbourhood of big cities like Madras, Coimbatore, Madurai and Tiruchirappalli. We had originally provided for a

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loan of Rs. 70 lakhs to the Housing Board in the current year. As, however, we have received Rs. 145 lakhs in the current year from the Life Insurance Corporation of India as loan for this and other housing schemes, the Government propose to sanction an additional loan of Rs. 80 lakhs to the State Housing Board in the current year. This sum has also been included in the Supplementary Estimates.

4. In order to hold in check prices of essential commodities, the Government approved last year a programme for establishment of a net work of Consumer Co-operatives. Such societies have already been organised in urban centres with a population of more than 1 lakh each. The Government have now decided to extend the programme to 19 more towns, each with a population of 50,000 to 1,00,000. Under this scheme, financial assistance will be given to wholesale and primary stores towards share capital and working capital and also for construction of godowns. The Government will also subsidise the managerial expenses. A provision of Rs. 82 lakhs has been made for this scheme in the Supplementary Estimates. This is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme and the entire expenditure will be covered by loans and grants from the Centre.

5. As Honourable Members are aware, the achievement of the Third Plan targets under Food Production depends largely on the increased application of fertilisers. With a view to encouraging the farmers in this direction, loans are being given liberally to cultivators for purchase of chemical fertilisers for not only paddy crop but also for commercial crops like cotton, oilseeds, coconut, etc. An additional provision of Rs. 56 lakhs has been made in this regard.

6. Of the additional appropriation now sought under Revenue Account, the requirement under Community Development Projects alone is of the order of about Rs. 82 lakhs. The Government of India have sponsored a scheme for utilisation of man-power in rural areas. This scheme seeks to harness the labour in rural areas which remains unemployed during the off-season for productive employment on works of common utility such as laying of roads, deepening of ponds, etc. The entire cost of this scheme is met by the Government of India in the form of loans and grants. This programme has already been taken up in thirty-five blocks in this State and a provision of Rs. 33 lakhs has been sought in the Supplementary Estimates for covering the anticipated expenditure on this scheme. The programme of Village Industries entrusted to the Panchayat Union has also made appreciable progress necessitating an additional provision of Rs. 15 lakhs. The Panchayat Unions and Panchayat have also been evincing keen interest in mobilisation of resources for their programmes. Most of the Panchayat Unions have taken the opportunity to levy a surcharge on Entertainment Tax. There has therefore been an increase in revenue under this head. As bulk of the collections are passed on to the local bodies, an additional provision of Rs. 84 lakhs is now

made in the Supplementary Estimates over and above the Budget provision of Rs. 236 lakhs. The collection of house tax by Panchayats has registered appreciable improvement and the Government are acordingly obliged to seek an additional provision of Rs. 27·25 lakhs in the Supplementary Estimates towards payment of House Tax Matching Grants to the Panchayat Unions.

7. During the last three years we have started a large number of high schools in rural areas and we have taken up the question of provision of suitable buildings for these schools. The expenditure involved in the programme is so large that it has obviously to be suitably phased. The Government have decided to make a beginning with the construction of buildings for the various erstwhile District Board schools. The Government will endeavour to make a provision of Rs. 25 lakhs every year for the scheme and this will be supplemented by public contributions. A sum of Rs. 10 lakhs has been made in the Supplementary Estimates towards the expenditure anticipated in the current year.

8. The other schemes included in the Supplementary Estimates do not call for any special comments. With these remarks, I commend the Supplementary Estimates for acceptance of this House.

APPENDIX II.

(Vide Item V on page 12.)

Address by Sri Bisnuram Medhi, Governor of Madras, to the Members of the Madras Legislative Assembly and the Madras Legislative Council, assembled together at the Assembly Chamber, Fort St. George, at 11 a.m. on Thursday, the 16th January 1964.

Honourable Members of the Legislature,

An eventful year has passed since I had the pleasure of addressing you last. We had then met under the shadow of a serious external threat to our way of life. The need for continued vigilance on our frontiers has not abated, but we have reason to feel satisfied that we are now in a stronger position to meet the aggressor and that there is better appreciation in international sphere of our point of view.

2. In this State, the chief event has been the relinquishment of office by Sri Kamaraj who so ably guided our affairs for nearly a decade. His intuitive sympathy for the poor and the downtrodden, his pragmatic approach to the problems of the day and the high standard of integrity which set the tone for this administration, have won for him the affection and regard of all sections of our people. Though he has now assumed onerous responsibilities in a wider sphere, we are all glad that his valuable counsel and guidance are still available to us in this Legislature. You will no doubt join with me in expressing our deep sense of gratitude for the remarkable stability which he imparted to the State administration, during a crucial period of development of the State.